1992 Coca-Cola Soccer League Top Five Series

Official Programme

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Welcome to the Top Five Series!

With the Top Five Series upon us yet again in our third season of summer competition, fans of the local game have plenty to smile about.

Now at the climax of the first season since the commencement of our partnership with internationally respected beverage giants Coca Cola, each of the deserving Top Five candidates are gearing themselves for a battle to reach and win the ultimate - The Coca Cola Soccer League Grand Final.

Top Five Series crowds have risen dramatically since its inception eight years ago, and this year is expected to be no different in fact, if not exceed, the crowd of more than 27,000 at last year's thriller between South Melbourne and Melbourne Croatia.

The support of the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation has also been an important factor in the success of this year's competition and with the issue of tobacco advertising in sport gaining such prominence of late, soccer can justifiably be proud of its position at the forefront of responsible, healthy sponsorship of sport.

Here's to a feast of quality football in the 1991-92 Coca Cola Soccer League Top Five Series.

John Constantine O.A.M.
Chairman

Coca-Cola
Soccer League

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Paul Wade, midfielder. Captain of the Quit Socceroos, for whom he has played more than 50 matches. He also played more than 170 matches and scored more than 30 goals in the National Soccer League, and was part of the 1991 Quit NSL Champion side. Gives 100%. Leads by example. And all without puffing.

Because, thanks to the sponsorship of Vic Health, rising young stars like Paul are guaranteed a healthy start in senior soccer.

For more information on Vic Health's sporting guidelines, write to:

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South Australia Foundation S.A.

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Vic Health Foundation

1991-1992 FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	**Melbourne Croatia**	26	14	7	5	45	26	**35**
2	**Sydney Olympic**	26	12	10	4	38	27	**34**
3	**South Melbourne**	26	13	5	8	51	28	**31**
4	**Adelaide City**	26	10	9	7	26	23	**29**
5	**Wollongong City**	26	9	10	7	24	17	**28**
6	Brisbane United	26	8	10	8	31	35	26
7	Marconi-Fairfield	26	10	5	11	33	31	25
8	Apia Leichhardt	26	7	11	8	26	28	25
9	Heidelberg United	26	8	8	10	28	33	24
10	Parramatta Melita	26	6	11	9	24	24	23
11	Newcastle BHP	26	7	8	11	28	39	22
12	Sydney Croatia	26	6	9	11	22	33	21
13	West Adelaide	26	7	7	12	25	46	21
14	Preston	26	5	10	11	21	32	20

1992 TOP 5 SCHEDULE

ELIMINATION SEMI-FINAL

Match A - 12th April, 1992
(Loser eliminated)

SYDNEY OLYMPIC Ad City
4th Place
VS
WOLLONGONG CITY
5th Place

Hindmarsh Stadium
VENUE

PRELIMINARY SEMI-FINAL

Match B - 12th April, 1992

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 0
2nd Place
VS
SOUTH MELBOURNE 2
3rd Place

Syd Football Stadium
VENUE

MINOR SEMI-FINAL

Match C - 19th April, 1992

Adelaide City
Winner of Match A
VS
Sydney Olympic
Loser of Match B

Syd. Football Stadium
VENUE

MAJOR SEMI-FINAL

Match D - 19th April, 1992

MELBOURNE CROATIA 0
1st Place
VS
South Melbourne 0
Winner of Match B

Olympic Park
VENUE

PRELIMINARY-FINAL

Match E - 26th April, 1992

South Melbourne 0
Winner of Match C
VS
Adelaide City 2
Loser of Match D

Olympic Park
VENUE

GRAND-FINAL

3rd May, 1992

Melb Croatia 0
Winner of Match D
VS
Adelaide City 0
Winner of Match E

Olympic Park
VENUE

1991-92 RESULTS

	Adelaide City	Apia Leichhardt	Brisbane United	Heidelberg United	Marconi-Fairfield	Melbourne Croatia	Melita Eagles	Newcastle BHP	Preston Makedonia	South Melbourne	Sydney Croatia	Sydney Olympic	West Adelaide	Wollongong City
***HOME* - Adelaide City**		1-1	1-0	0-0	2-1	2-0	2-1	1-1	0-1	1-0	2-1	2-0	0-1	1-0
Apia Leichhardt	0-0		1-1	3-0	0-1	2-4	0-0	3-1	1-0	5-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2
Brisbane United	1-1	2-1		1-0	1-1	1-2	2-1	3-5	1-1	2-0	1-2	2-0	2-2	2-1
Heidelberg United	2-2	0-0	2-1		2-0	1-4	2-1	2-0	0-1	1-2	1-2	4-1	2-0	3-0
Marconi-Fairfield	2-0	1-0	0-1	2-0		1-1	2-2	2-0	1-0	1-1	2-2	1-2	4-2	1-4
Melbourne Croatia	4-0	0-0	3-1	0-0	2-1		1-1	6-0	2-1	0-1	2-1	2-2	3-1	1-0
Melita Eagles	1-1	1-1	0-0	2-0	0-2	0-0		0-0	2-0	0-2	2-0	0-3	1-2	0-1
Newcastle BHP	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0	1-0	4-1	0-2		0-0	3-1	1-2	1-3	3-1	1-1
Preston Makedonia	1-0	1-2	1-1	1-1	0-3	0-2	0-0	1-2		1-2	2-0	0-3	4-0	0-0
South Melbourne	2-0	6-1	4-1	5-0	1-2	1-1	0-2	1-1	5-1		0-0	1-3	3-0	1-0
Sydney Croatia	1-1	1-1	2-2	1-3	3-1	0-1	0-3	1-0	1-1	0-2		1-1	0-1	0-2
Sydney Olympic	1-0	2-1	1-1	1-1	1-1	2-1	1-1	2-1	1-1	1-0	0-0		2-0	1-0
West Adelaide	1-4	0-1	0-1	1-1	1-0	1-1	2-1	1-2	2-2	1-7	1-0	3-1		1-1
Wollongong City	0-0	2-1	3-0	1-0	1-0	2-0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-1	2-2	0-0	

MELBOURNE CROATIA

MINOR PREMIERS: *1991*
GRAND FINAL RUNNERS-UP: *1991*

Player	'91/'92 App/Gls	Total App/Gls
Joe Biskic	25/1	210/25
George Hannah	25/2	200/7
Theo Selemides	25/0	346/23
Vlado Vanis	12/0	13/0
Mark Talajic	21/0	105/4
Damien Mori	24/11	N/A
Andrew Marth	11/1	120/5
Mark Silic	21/4	24/4
Branko Milosevic	21/3	128/16
Ivan Kelic	11/3	78/36
David Miller	26/0	67/0
Paul Donnelly	24/1	104/1
Alan Davidson	19/0	282/15
Ollie Pondlejak	15/4	N/A
Joe Bacak	14/0	N/A
Steve Jerbic	1/0	1/0
Francis Awaritefe	23/14	85/41
Joe Rados	0/0	N/A

FOURTH in 1989, third in 1990 and runner-up in that memorable all-Victorian grand final last year.

That is Melbourne Croatia's proud recent record, a record which makes Melbourne Croatia the first Melbourne club to have ever played off in four successive finals series.

A record which spells out the quality of the boys from Somers Street, and a record which, if the statistical sequence means anything, suggests that Melbourne Croatia is a team of destiny as it charges into the play-offs in 1991-92.

Rookie NSL coach Ken Murphy has followed in the recent traditions of Ivan Raznjevic (1989 and 1989-90) and Ken Worden (1990-91) to produce a side which has finished the home and away league campaign within the elite top five.

Indeed, Murphy conciously tampered little with the side which finished as a minor premier last year and has been the yardstick of the competition again this time around.

There is quality throughout Murphy's side, with the likes of irresistable goalscoring duo Francis Awaritefe and Ivan Kelic, Mark 'Bulldozer' Talajic, Paul 'Soldier' Donnelly, Socceroo Branko Milosevic, Vlado 'Moose' Vanis, Mark 'Flash' Silic and goalkeeper David Miller all players of proven NSL calibre.

But many suggest the title hopes of Melbourne Croatia rest on the broad shoulders of the Olympic Socceroo and human lightning strike, Damian Mori, the man dubbed 'the one-man demolition squad'.

Mori, just 21, has the ability to turn games with one blinding run or adrenalin-pumping rocket shot.

The talented utility, one of Murphy's additions to the beaten grand final team, has lifted this side to victory more than once this season, earning him media plaudits as the player of the year.

If desire can push a team over the line, Melbourne Croatia can clear a space in the trophy cabinet now.

Rarely have I seen a group of players so single-mindedly determined to atone for past mistakes.

Melbourne Croatia isn't about to make the same grand final blunder again - the humiliation of last season was too great.

Long-term injured players such as Andrew Marth have trained double and triple time in a bid to win back a first team place, knowing full well that there is a talented group of youngsters who, after spending the early part of the season on the bench, have done as much as any players to keep Melbourne Croatia in the coveted top spot.

The reds had a pontially debilitating list which ran at three or more players weekly from November until the end of the home and away season, but the depth at the club is awesome.

The bad news for the other clubs in the finals is that the three week break has left Murphy with a full squad to select from - including the club's golden oldies in Theo Selemidis, George Hannah, skipper and last year's Marsten Medal winner Jo Biskic and Alan Davidson.

And these fellows could be just the key men Melbourne Croatia can call on in the quest for a first-ever club championship.

Of all the people crushed by last season's grand final loss, the 'elder statesmen' felt the defeat the most.

For any or all of these long-time NSL campaigners, the 1991-92 season could be their last.

What more appropriate swansong than to deliver the NSL championship back to Somers Street on Grand Final day.

Greg Blake
Aust. & British Soccer Weekly

Coca-Cola

KEN MURPHY
Coach; Born 19/6/56; Played for South Melbourne and Footscray; Began in NSL in 1983; Represented Australia as Socceroo and also in 1986 World Cup Qualifiers.

DAVID MILLER
Goalkeeper; Born 27/3/65; Previously played for West Adelaide; NSL debut in 1981; Joined Melbourne Croatia in 1990; Played for Australia Under 16's.

FRANCIS AWARITEFE
Striker; Born 18/4/64; Joined Melbourne Croatia in 1989 from English team Sutton;

VLADO VANIS
Defender; Born 13/8/65; Previous club Hamilton Steelers; Played for Canada and voted Player of the Year 1990.

BRANKO MILOSEVIC
Midfielder; Born 21/8/64; Previously with H.K. Osijek; Represented Victoria, as well as Australia in 1991.

ALAN DAVIDSON
Defender; Born 1/6/60; NSL debut 1979; Previous club South Melbourne; Represented both Victoria and Australia in youth and senior squads.

IVAN KELIC
Striker; Born 29/12/68; Previously with St. Albans; Joined Melbourne Croatia in 1989; NSL debut 1989.

MARK SILIC
Midfielder; Born 26/2/72; Came through the Melbourne Croatia Junior ranks.

DAMIEN MORI
Born 30/9/70; Played for South Melbourne, Brunswick United, and Sunshine G.C.; Played in U/23 Olympic squad.

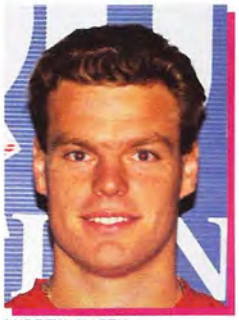
OLLIE PONDLEJAK
Striker; Born 15/6/72; Previously played for St. Albans; Represented Victoria; Total 20 NSL appearances.

JOSIP BISKIC (captain)
Midfielder; Born 20/5/59; Previous club H.K. Osijek; NSL debut 1984.

MARK TALAJIC
Defender; Born 2/7/69; Came up from Melbourne Croatia juniors; NSL debut 1986; Played for Victoria in U/13's, 14's, 15's, 16's and youth as well as Australian Under 16's and youth.

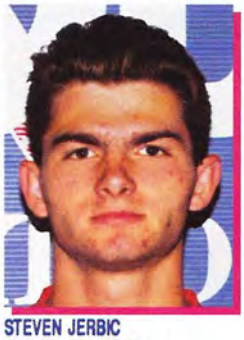
THEO SELEMIDIS
Sweeper; Born 26/10/59; Joined Melbourne Croatia from Heidelberg in 1988; NSL debut 1977; Played for Australia Under 19's in 1978/79 and Seniors in 1980 and 1984.

PAUL DONNELLY
Defender; Born 14/7/62; Came to Melbourne Croatia in 1988 fro Perth Azzurri; Played semi-pro in Scotland in 1979, Western Australia in 1987.



ANDREW MARTH
Defender; Born 10/2/69; Previously with Sunshine G.C. NSL debut 1986; Played in under 12's - 16's Youth State Squad.

GEORGE HANNAH
Defender; Born 18/7/57; NSL debut 1984; Played in Victorian Squad.



STEVEN JERBIC
Defender; Born 8/4/72.

JOE RADOS
Goalkeeper; Born 5/10/71; Joined Melbourne Croatia in 1989 from St. Albans; NSL debut 1989.

JOE BACAK
Midfielder; Born 23/5/73; Played in Victorian Representative team; Total 20 NSL appearances.

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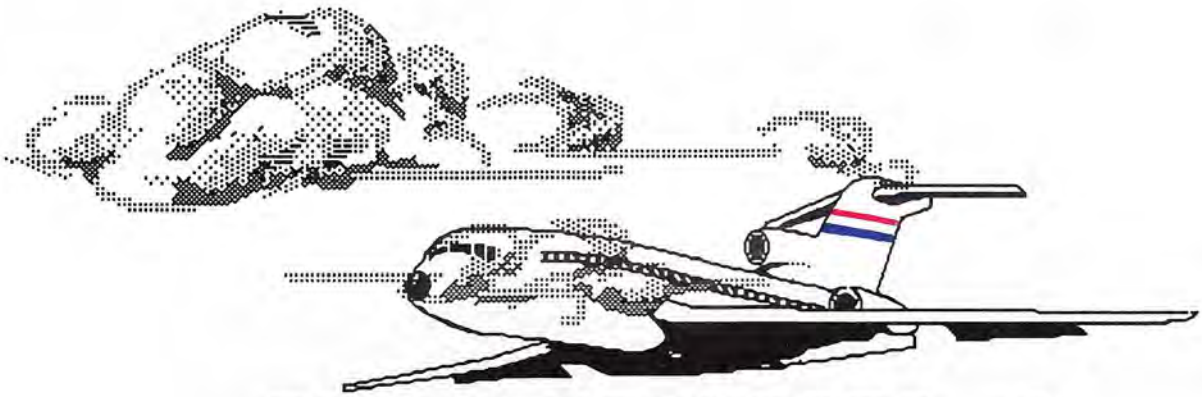

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1991/92 C.C.S.L. PREMIERS

MELBOURNE CROATIA

Melbourne Croatia Soccer Club.
Back Row L-R: Branko Milosevic, Damien Mori, Mark Talasic, Ivan Kelic, Andrew Marth, Joe Bacak, Mark Silic, David Miller.
Front Row L-R: Paul Donnelly, George Hannah, Alan Davidson, Theo Selemidis, Vlado Vanis, Oliver Pondeljac.
PHOTO BY CLASSIC STUDIOS 670 5597

MINOR PREMIERS: *1984, 1986*
CUP WINNERS: *1985*
GRAND FINAL WINNERS: *1990*

Sydney Olympic

Player	'91/'92 App/Gls	Total App/Gls
Elias Augerinos	17/0	N/A
Abbas Saad	17/5	N/A
Timothy Bredbury	25/15	N/A
Peter Katholos	20/1	N/A
Robert Ironside	23/9	N/A
Ned Zelic	17/1	N/A
David Barrett	22/0	N/A
Grant Lee	24/4	N/A
Steve Refenes	16/0	N/A
Gary Phillips	24/0	N/A
Robert Hooker	19/0	N/A
Eric Hristodoulou	18/1	N/A
Andrew Bernal	23/0	N/A
Pablo Cardozo	11/0	N/A
Walter Ardone	0/0	N/A
Jason Bennett	1/0	N/A
Alistair Edwards	4/0	N/A
Steve Hickman	1/0	N/A
Gary Meier	26/0	N/A
Peter Tsekenis	3/0	N/A
George Sorras	1/0	N/A
Zlatko Nastevski	8/0	N/A

SYDNEY Olympic, a rare hot-favourite for this season's Top Five Series, needed a club record of 34 league points to thread their way through a tight field and squeeze past current league champions Melbourne Hellas and 1992 winners of the Sharp Cup Final Adelaide City. Olympic finished their season in second spot, one point behind Kenny Murphy's premiers, Melbourne Croatia.

NSL champions in 1990 for the first time, the big question remains, can Sydney Olympic do it again?

Olympic, who will play at least two of its Top Five Series matches in Sydney, remained as the league's only side unbeaten at home.

Olympic are hungrily ambitious to win their second ever national title under phlegmatic coach, Mickey Hickman. Galvanised in Hickman's brain were memories of how Melita Eagles in the last match of the season, edged Sydney Olympic out of the finals on goal-difference. "This was NOT going to happen again" vowed Hickman to himself.

Hickman recruited quality material in libero Ned Zelic, midfielder Peter Katholos and ace marksman from Hong Kong Tim Bredbury.

There were three major highlights for Sydney Olympic's on-pitch success during the season.

First was the incredible and match-winning form of veteran goalkeeper Gary Meier, secondly, the consistantly lethal strikes of polished imported marksman Tim Bredbury and thirdly, the again power house enforcing displays of Olympics New Zealand skipper, Robbie Ironside.

Time after time, match after match, Meier performed heroic deeds against all odds to keep the enemy out and snare precious league points for his side.

Within weeks, the highly alert Bredbury served notice that he was going to be near the top of the NSL's goalscoring charts at the end of the season.

Finally, giant midfielder, Ironside, after missing four crucial league matches whilst on national duty in Britain with the New Zealand touring squad, returned to get back on the scoring lists and add greatly needed power and direction to Olympic's gearbox.

Other factors contributing to Olympic's high-standing in the league were the continued stirling and uncompromising form of international stopper, Andrew Bernal, the rapidly maturing form of teenage left mid-fielder Pablo Cardozo and the ever-green constructive service of right midfielder Grant Lee.

The explosive,most unpredictable striker and hero of Sydney Olympic's 1990 grand final success, Abbas Saad, is back to top form.

Saad is a 'big match' player who can turn any clash right around.

Prior to the start of the season Olympic were considered fringe candidates for the top five. But now having finished the season in second spot, they are looking towards repeating their historic 1990 championship win.

John Economous
ASW/Greek Herald

Coca-Cola

MICK HICKMAN
Coach; Born 2/10/46; Born in England; Asst. coach to Eddie Thomson at Syd. Olympic; Took over coaching in 1989/90; Has coached team to 1 championship in 1990.

ELIAS AUGERINOS
Defender/Midfield; Born 31/10/71; Joined Sydney Olympic from St. George in 1991; Total 16 NSL appearances.

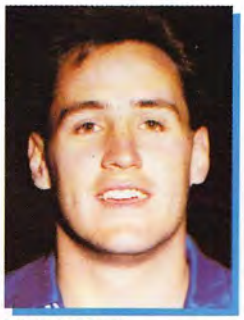
ABBAS SAAD
Striker; Born 1/12/67; Previous clubs Sydney City '84-'86; Aust. Youth and Socceroo appearances; NSW Reps vs Queensland 1988-91; Toatal 120 NSL appearances.

TIMOTHY BREDBURY
Striker; Born 25/4/63; Joined Sydney Olympic from Hong Kong in 1991; Played for Hong Kong National Team - 44 app; Total 23 NSL appearances.

PETER KATHOLOS
Midfielder; Born 18/3/61; Joined Olympic in 1991 from Marconi; Aust. Schoolboys, Youth and Senior appearances; Total 310 NSL appearances.

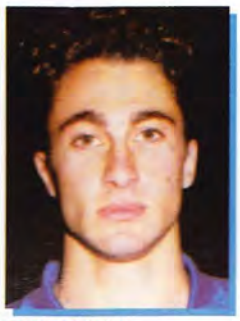
ROBERT IRONSIDE
Midfielder; Born 20/8/67; Previous clubs Nth Shore Utd; Represented New Zealand Youth and Seniors - total 42 appearances.

NED ZELIC
Sweeper; Born 4/7/71; Previously with A.I.S., Canberra Croatia; Joined Olympic in 1989; Aust. Youth and Socceroo appearances as well as Olympic team 1990-92; Total 50 NSL appearances.

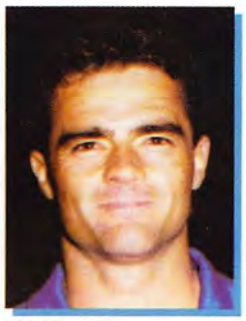


DAVID BARRETT
Defender; Born 21/2/69; Previously with Sydney City; Has played at State and National levels; Total 126 NSL appearances.

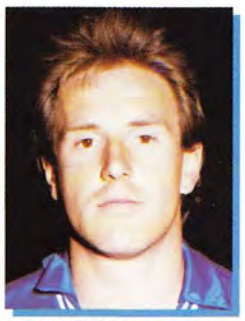
GRANT LEE
Midfielder; Born 19/10/61; Previously with Sydney City, Newcastle KB and Blacktown City; Has represented Australia at Schoolboy, Youth and Senior levels as well as State reps; Total 230 NSL appearances.



STEVE REFENES
Midfielder; Born 19/2/70.



GARY PHILLIPS
Midfielder; Born 9/6/63; Played for Coffs Harbour and Sawtell before joining Sydney Olympic; Played for Aust. Schoolboys 1979-81; Total 252 NSL appearances.

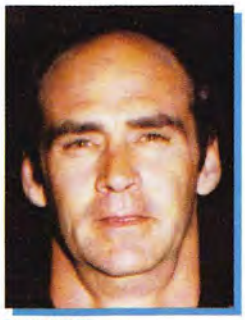


ROBERT HOOKER
Defender; Born 6/3/67; Came to Sydney Olympic from the A.I.S.; Represented Australia at both Youth and Senior levels; Total 170 NSL appearances.

ERIC HRISTODOULOU
Midfielder; Born 23/6/70; Previously with Sydney City; Represented at State level and Olympic Squad.

ANDREW BERNAL
Midfielder; Born 16/5/66; Previously with Ipswich Town; played for Australia in 1985 Youth squad and Aust. "A" Squad 1990-91.

PABLO CARDOZO
Striker; Born 23/12/72; Came up from Sydney Olympic Youth team; Played for 1990 State Schoolboy side; Total 12 NSL appearances.



GARY MEIER
Goalkeeper; Born 10/9/55; NSL debut 1977; 1 full Australian International app. Longest serving Sydney Olympic player.

PETER TSEKENIS
Born 4/8/73; NSL debut 1991; Current member of U/20 National Yth. Squad.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC SFC

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WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP
AUSTRALIA 93

CHAMPIONS: *1984*
CUP WINNERS: *1990*
GRAND FINAL WINNERS: *1984*
GRAND FINAL WINNERS: *1991*

SOUTH MELBOURNE

Player	'91/'92 App/Gls	Total App/Gls
Paul Trimboli	26/9	144/45
Bruce MacLaren	26/0	120/0
Michael Petersen	21/2	179/15
Paul Wade	23/7	202/38
Steven Blair	11/0	315/12
Gary Hasler	21/0	N/A
David Healy	25/0	123/1
Paul Fernandez	22/2	83/2
Kimon Taliadoros	23/15	91/44
Danny Wright	25/3	227/41
Michael Michalakopoulos	12/2	38/9
Mehmet Durakovic	22/1	156/5
Peter Tzamouranis	3/0	N/A
Con Boutsianis	22/5	39/9
Peter Nikolakopoulos	2/0	N/A
Harry Michael	5/0	47/2
Robert Csabai	8/0	N/A
Angie Postecoglou	6/0	183/19
Steve Tasios	1/0	104/18
Peter Tsolakis	23/3	165/32

SINCE Ferenc Puskas was appointed coach in late 1989, South Melbourne Hellas has been consistently the most entertaining team in Australia.

Masterminded in attack by Paul Trimboli and in midfield by Mike Petersen, Souths plays the game the way an artist paints a picture.

From the moment he joined the club, Puskas insisted on three forwards in a league accustomed to two-man strike forces. The players were sceptical at first but the results spoke for themselves.

It can afford to live dangerously because it has the league's most fanatical sweeper, Mehmet Durakovic, the vastly experienced and influential Steve Blair and a brilliant goalkeeper, Bruce MacLaren.

Early this season, Souths scored with such regularity that the 68 goal one-season record set by Sydney Hakoah in 1982 appeared to be under threat. Hakoah's total represented a scoring rate of 2.26 a game, yet after a 5-0 thrashing of Heidelberg in round 7, Souths had amassed 22 goals for a rate of 3.66 a game.

Part of that devastating early-season form was due to the fact that Souths had a higher level of match fitness than most of its opponents, having played not only in the Dockerty Cup and Gold Cup but having also undertaken an off-season trip to Greece.

Whatever problems Souths has had to overcome this season concerned injuries and team selections. Puskas, previously a staunch advocate of team stability, suddenly appeared to fall prey to the complications created by an enlarged squad.

Having sanctioned the recruitment of Gary Hasler from Sunshine George Cross and Robert Csabai from Canada, he felt obliged, perhaps, to use them in his first XI.

Csabai was eventually sent back home, Tsolakis did go to midfield and Boutsianis established himself - but it could have happened much more quickly. More recently, Tsolakis has dropped out due to injury, so Danny Wright, at left back for many matches, is now alongside Petersen and Paul Wade in midfield.

In the finals, Souths might again place its faith in facial growth. In the lead-up to last season's triumphant grand final, the players staedfastly refused to shave, trusting in hair power to get them through.

They claimed their superstition was vindicated when they escaped from the jaws of defeat in its first finals match against Adelaide City, and in the grand final against Melbourne Croatia. Souths fought back from the brink of defeat in both games.

Laurie Schwab
The Age

Coca-Cola

FERENC PUSKAS
Coach; Born 2/4/27; Hungarian and Real Madrid star in the 60's. Started at South Melbourne last season.

BRUCE MACLAREN
Goalkeeper; Born 11/5/62; Joined South Melbourne from English league in 1988;

PAUL TRIMBOLI
Striker; Born 25/2/69; Joined from Sunshine G.C. in 1988; NSL debut 1987; Played for Aust. U/16's, Aust. Youth team, Aust. Indoor squad and the Socceroos.

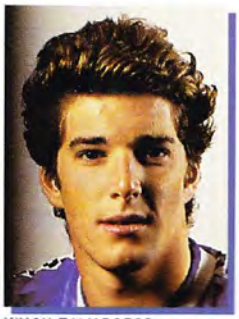
PAUL WADE (captain)
Midfielder; Born 20/3/62; Came to South Melbourne in 1987 from Brunswick Juventus; Represented Australia in Socceroos since 1986.

MICHAEL PETERSEN
Midfielder; Born 6/5/65; Joined South Melbourne from Brunswick Juventus in 1989. Represented Australia in Socceroos.

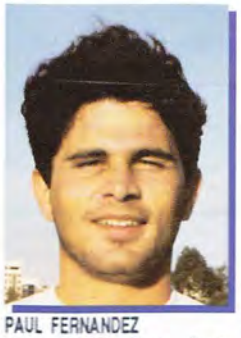
STEVEN BLAIR
Midfielder; Born 28/12/61; NSL debut in 1980; Previous club Albion Rovers; Represented Victoria and Australia at both Youth and Senior level.

GARY HASLER
Born 5/7/70; Previously with Sunshine G.C.; Joined South Melbourne in 1991; Currently in U/23 Olympics squad.

DAVID HEALY
Defender; Born 13/3/68; Previous clubs include A.I.S. and Knox City S.C. NSL debut in 1988; Represented Victoria and Australia at various levels.



KIMON TALIADOROS
Striker; Born 28/3/68; NSL debut in 1982; Came to South Melbourne from Box Hill juniors; Represented Australia in 1990.



PAUL FERNANDEZ
Born 22/8/67; From South Melbourne Juniors.

MICHAEL MICHALAKOPOULOS
Striker; Born 7/12/69; NSL debut in 1989; Joined South Melbourne from Port Melbourne in 1989. Played in Australian U/23 Olympic Team in 1990.

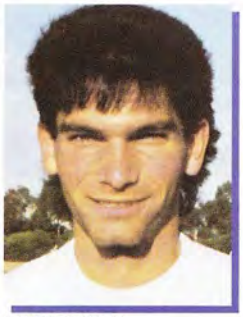
DANNY WRIGHT
Midfielder; Born 2/11/64; Previously with Brisbane Lions. Joined South Melbourne in 1987; Represented Australia in the youth team 1981-83.

PETER TZAMOURANIS
Born 6/11/71; From South Melbourne Juniors.

MEHMET DURAKOVIC
Midfielder; Born 13/10/65; Joined from Melbourne JUST in 1989; NSL debut 1985; National appearance against Moscow Torpedo.

PETER NIKOLAKOPOULOS
Born 23/10/71; From South Melbourne Juniors.

CON BOUTSIANIS
Striker; Born 27/12/71; Previous clubs Caulfield City and Malvern.



HARRY MICHAEL
Defender; Born 6/10/68; NSL debut in 1988; Previous club Caulfield City; Joined South Melbourne in 1988.

Coca-Cola
Soccer League

ELIMINATION SEMI-FINAL

Date: 12 April '92 **Venue:** Hindmarsh Stadium

ADELAIDE CITY	V	WOLLONGONG CITY

	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	

RESULT

Referee: _____ Linesman: _____

Linesman: _____ 4th Official: _____

PRELIMINARY SEMI-FINAL

Date: 12 April '92 **Venue:** Parramatta Stadium

SYDNEY OLYMPIC	V	SOUTH MELBOURNE

	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	

RESULT

Referee: _____ Linesman: _____

Linesman: _____ 4th Official: _____

MINOR SEMI-FINAL

Date: 19 April '92 **Venue:** _____

	V	

	1	
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	4	
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	

RESULT

Referee: _____ Linesman: _____

Linesman: _____ 4th Official: _____

MAJOR SEMI-FINAL

Date: 19 April '92 **Venue:** Olympic Park

MELBOURNE CROATIA	V	

	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	

RESULT

Referee: _____ Linesman: _____

Linesman: _____ 4th Official: _____

PRELIMINARY FINAL

Date: 26 April '92 Venue: _____

_____ V _____

1 _____ _____
2 _____ _____
3 _____ _____
4 _____ _____
5 _____ _____
6 _____ _____
7 _____ _____
8 _____ _____
9 _____ _____
10 _____ _____
11 _____ _____
12 _____ _____
13 _____ _____

RESULT

Referee: _____ Linesman: _____

Linesman: _____ 4th Official: _____

GRAND FINAL

Date: 3 May '92 Venue: _____

_____ V _____

1 _____ _____
2 _____ _____
3 _____ _____
4 _____ _____
5 _____ _____
6 _____ _____
7 _____ _____
8 _____ _____
9 _____ _____
10 _____ _____
11 _____ _____
12 _____ _____
13 _____ _____

RESULT

Referee: _____ Linesman: _____

Linesman: _____ 4th Official: _____

"Every Socceroo has to start somewhere and ***Roo Ball*** is a great way to play soccer. The more kicks of a soccer ball you get, the better player you will become. I would love to see every young Australian playing ***Roo Ball***."

Eddie Thomson
National Coach

"***Roo Ball*** is designed to give every young player as many opportunities to kick a soccer ball as possible, whilst at the same time gain social skills from playing in a team. Young children just want to play soccer. It is adults who tend to formalise the game. The philosophy behind ***Roo Ball*** is that there is no formal competition with results and that referees and coaches act in a supportive manner.
We will see the benefits of ***Roo Ball*** immediately...on the faces of the children. By the year 2000 we will see many skilful players having graduated from this game, helping to make Australia a leading soccer nation.

Steve Darby
National Development Officer

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION ASF

RooBall

"The Best Way to Learn How to Play Soccer"

"Soccer is a beautiful game with the object being enjoyment. As a youngster, my best friend was my soccer ball. We went everywhere together. We spent hours devising new games and practising skills. These simple fun games enabled me to go to England and play for Liverpool F.C. the biggest club in the world. But even at Liverpool the games didn't stop. Every morning we played our own form of ***Roo Ball***, a simple six-a-side game, because even grown up players have to enjoy their soccer. At primary school age, we're not looking for fitness or tactics. We're looking for smiles and laughter and that's what ***Roo Ball*** is all about."

Craig Johnston
National Youth Ambassador

"***Roo Ball*** is the best way to learn to play soccer. Kids get a fair go, lots of touches of a ball and heaps of fun. The Drug Offensive supports it as well, it's got ot be great for our kids.

Paul Wade & Anissa Tann
Socceroo Captains

Adelaide City

CHAMPIONS: *1986*
CUP WINNERS: *1979,1989*
GRAND FINAL WINNERS: *1986*

Player	'91/'92 App/Gls	Total App/Gls
Joe Barbaro	9/1	18/4
Carlo Talladira	8/0	16/0
Steve Maxwell	24/3	240/68
Ross Aloisi	6/0	7/0
Paul Shillabeer	22/2	197/4
Mike Brooks	20/0	24/1
Robert Zabica	26/0	130/0
Ernest Tapai	22/2	29/5
Zoran Ilic	19/0	N/A
Carl Veart	19/7	62/23
Joe Mullen	23/5	238/52
Sergio Melta	18/2	358/58
Robert Csoboth	20/0	41/1
Milan Ivanovic	24/0	90/1
Alex Tobin	26/3	193/4
Anthony Vidmar	20/1	81/9
John Aloisi	1/0	N/A

ADELAIDE City ended its Coca Cola Soccer League minor round campaign with a meagre 26 goal tally, its worst goal scoring effort in 15 years of national competition.

City also finished the bread and butter section of the program carrying the burden of the most horrendous injury casualty list in the history of the club.

In sickening succession, City lost Carl Veart, Paul Shillabeer and Robert Csoboth, who all required knee surgery before 363-game veteran Sergio Melta broke down with an ankle injury which also needed an operation.

Add to those woes an ankle injury to war-horse jumping Joe Mullen and a recurring hamstring problem for Veart and it is a marvel that City trainer Brian Bannon did not claim overtime.

The proud South Australian club waltzed through its first twelve games of the 1991-92 season unconquered, to establish a club record of invincibility.

Ominously, round 13 brought City's darkest hour and a half as unfashionable Preston inflicted a 1-0 defeat that was not only to end the dream run but unhappily begin a horror stretch which saw City winless for a barren eight games.

Home success over Brisbane shoved the Zebras back on the title track but there was gloom mixed with the glory as the final five matches brought three losses and two wins.

With Robert Zabica, Alex Tobin, Milan Ivanovich, Tony Vidmar, Ernie Tapai and Steve Maxwell in the senior Socceroo squad, and Carl Veart and Vidmar in the Olympic Games contingent, the work load was enormous for mostly part-time players.

Never in the history of the code has a single club or as many South Australian players been invited to wear the green and gold.

But the call for National team duty unavoidably disrupted City's training schedules, a burden Matic and his right-hand man John Perin shouldered without public complaint.

In 1986, players wearing the black and white vertical stripes grabbed the national championship with a memorable two legged grand final 3-2 aggregate win over Sydney Olympic.

Of the men who shared in the triumph, Alex Tobin (now captain), Sergio Melta, Steve Maxwell, Paul Shillabeer and Joe Mullen remain as key members of the team dedicated to bringing a second championship to the club.

These days, the unrivalled experience of Milan Ivanovich and the scintillating brilliance of Robert Zabica, Ernie Tapai and Robert Csoboth have been added to the youthful exhuberance of Carl Veart, Tony Vidmar, Zoran Ilic, Michael Brooks, Carlo Talladira, Joe Barbaro and Ross Aloisi.

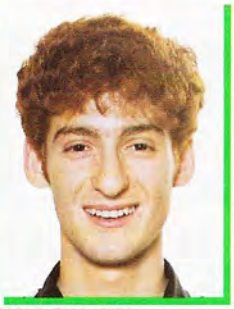
Two championships in six seasons would be a fine reward for the thousands of loyal supporters and hundreds of sponsors who have enjoyed the peaks and agonised through the troughs of the 1991-92 season

Eddie Thomson backed his judgement in choosing such a large contingent of City players in his Socceroo squads.

Zoran Matic and his men will be out to prove Thomson correct as they strive towards the final peak.

Allen Crisp

ZORAN MATIC
Coach; Born 2/12/44; Started coaching in 1986; Won 1986 championship & NSL Cup in 1989.



CARLO TALLADIRA
Defender; Born 23/6/71; From Adelaide City Juniors; 1988-89 Australian Schoolboys.

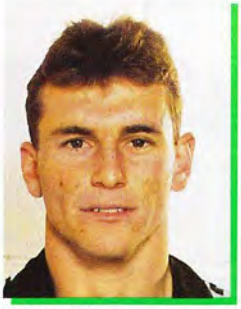
JOE BARBARO
Striker; Born 2/1/72; Previous club Woodville; South Australian State Team Under 14's, 15's and 18's.

ROSS ALOISI
Midfielder; Born 17/4/73; Came up from Adelaide City Juniors; Represented South Australia in Under 13's to 18's, and Australia in 1989 Under 16's.

STEVE MAXWELL
Striker; Born 17/1/65; Previously with Marconi; South Australia 1985-90, Australia 1986 & 1988.

PAUL SHILLABEER
Defender; Born 29/9/63; Previous club Beograd S.A. Represented South Australia 1985-90.

ROBERT ZABICA
Goalkeeper; Born 9/4/64; Previously with Stirling Macedonia-Perth; Represented South Australia in 1990/91 and Australia in 1991.

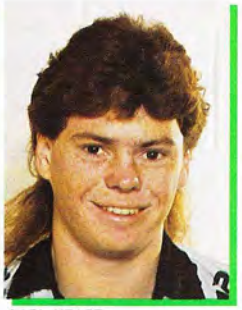


MIKE BROOKS
Born 24/3/71; Previously with Salisbury United; Played in S.A. State Team in 1984.

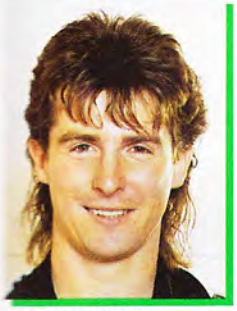
ZORAN ILIC
Born 1/9/69; Previously played for St. George and Canterbury Marrickville; Joined Adelaide City in 1991; Represented Australia in U/23 Olympic Squad.

ERNEST TAPAI
Midfielder; Born 14/2/67; Joined Adelaide City in 1990; NSL debut in 1985; Played for Australia against China in 1986 & against Gothenburg and Dinamo Zagreb in 1988.

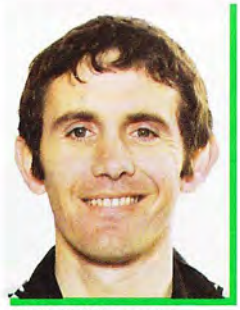
JOE MULLEN
Striker; Born 5/1/64; Previous club Para Hills; Australian Youth 1982-83, South Australian Seniors & Youth, Australia 1988.



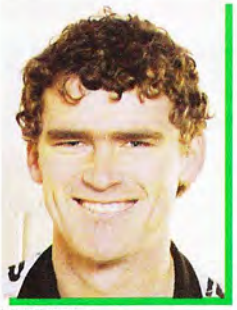
CARL VEART
Striker; Born 21/5/70; Previous club Salisbury; South Australia 1990, S.A. Youth 1988, Australian High School 1987, Australian Olympic 1990.



ROBERT CSOBOTH
Midfielder; Born 7/10/65; Came from DMSC; Represented Hungary in 1986.



SERGIO MELTA (captain)
Midfielder; Born 19/1/59, From Birkella Juniors S.A. Played for Australia in 1986 and South Australia in 1986-90.



ALEX TOBIN
Midfielder; Born 3/11/65; Came from Birkalla Juniors S.A. Played for Souath Australia 1986-89, Australian Youth in 1985, Australia 1988/89/90/91.

MILAN IVANOVIC
Midfielder; Born 21/12/60; From Yugoslavian team Red Star, Represented Australia in 1991.

ANTHONY VIDMAR
Defender; Born 4/7/70; Previously with Woodville Juniors; Played in Australian Schoolboys in 1988, South Australia in 1990 and Australia in 1991

Coca-Cola
Soccer League

FAIRMONT PACIFIC

ADELAIDE'S NUMBER 1 BUILDER
PROUDLY SUPPORTS
ADELAIDE'S NUMBER 1 SOCCER TEAM
ADELAIDE CITY

GET THE WINNING EDGE WITH

FAIRMONT PACIFIC

N.S.L. OFFICIALS

Gary Power
Born 17/8/51. Began refereeing in 1965 in Sutherland Shire. Included on International List of Referees in 1984. Member of N.S.L. Referee's Panel since 1978. Highlights include refereeing Australia vs Argentina in 1988 and World Youth Cup Elimination Series in Fiji 1990.

John McConnell
Age: 29. Commenced refereeing career 16 years ago. Appointed to F.J.F.A. panel earlier this year. The 1991 soccer season was his 4th on the National Soccer League referee's panel. Appointed to World Youth Championships in Portugal.

Richard Lorenc
Born 3/12/51. Started refereeing in 1967 in Gladesville-Hornsby Association. Joined N.S.W. Federation in 1969. Registered F.J.F.A. referee since 1984. Member of N.S.L. Referee's panel since 1977. Was appointed to 1990 World Cup in Italy.

Tom McRoe
Born 18/11/48. Started refereeing in 1978. Refereed first N.S.L. match in January 1989. Nominated for F.J.F.A. in 1990. Career highlights include representing S.A. at two Talent Identification Championships at Parklea N.S.W.

John Fraser
Has refereed many International matches including Saudi Arabia vs Hong Kong in 1988 and Victoria vs Dynamo Zagreb in 1989. Currently works as a Communications Manager for Telecom.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER REFEREES FEDERATION

Coca-Cola Soccer League

PAST WINNERS

YEAR	CHAMPIONS	RUNNER'S UP	GRAND FINAL WINNERS
1977	East. Sub.-Hakoah	Marconi	-
1978	West Adelaide	East. Sub.-Hakoah	East. Sub.-Hakoah
1979	Marconi	Heidelberg United	Sydney City
1980	Sydney City	Heidelberg United	Heidelberg United
1981	Sydney City	South Melbourne	-
1982	Sydney City	St. George	St. George
1983	St. George	Sydney City	-
1984 *	South Melbourne	Sydney Olympic	South Melbourne
1985 *	Brunswick Juventus	Sydney City	Brunswick Juventus
1986 *	Adelaide City	Sydney Olympic	Adelaide City
1987	Apia Leichhardt	Preston	St. George
1988 *	Marconi	Sydney Croatia	Marconi
1989 *	Marconi	Sydney Olympic	Marconi
1990 *	Sydney Olympic	Marconi	Sydney Olympic
1991 *	South Melbourne	Melbourne Croatia	South Melbourne

** Champions decided by Grand Final*

WHEN THE TEAMS MET

	ADELAIDE CITY	MELB. CROATIA	SOUTH MELB.	SYDNEY OLYMPIC	W/GONG CITY
ADELAIDE CITY (at home)		2-0	1-0	2-0	1-0
MELBOURNE CROATIA (at home)	4-0		0-1	2-2	1-0
SOUTH MELBOURNE (at home)	2-0	1-1		1-3	1-0
SYDNEY OLYMPIC (at home)	1-0	2-1	1-0		1-0
W/GONG CITY (at home)	0-0	2-0	0-0	2-2	

Coca-Cola

Wollongong City

Player	'91/'92 App/Gls	Total App/Gls
John Filan	22/0	N/A
David Skeen	25/1	N/A
Grant Bard	19/3	N/A
Michael Hollifield	10/0	N/A
Michael Smith	18/2	N/A
Tony Pezzano	4/0	N/A
Michael O'Shea	25/1	N/A
Frank Bate	14/2	N/A
Martin Bourke	6/0	N/A
Patrick Brodnik	19/2	N/A
David Green	25/0	N/A
Charlie Yankos	23/1	N/A
Richard Lloyd	24/1	N/A
Matthew Horsley	25/1	N/A
Claude Cellini	22/5	N/A
Mineo Bonetig	3/0	N/A
Alex Bundalo	10/2	N/A
Sasho Dimoski	8/0	N/A
Kevin Hagan	5/0	N/A
Jock Morlando	14/1	N/A
Craig Sharpley	2/0	N/A
Shane Williams	1/0	N/A

WHEN Wollongong City beat Brisbane United 3-0 at Brandon Park this season, seven of the players in the Wolves' starting lineup were born and bred in Wollongong.

Only one, playmaker Alex Bundalo, cost the club a transfer fee when he returned to the South Coast from Apia in October.

Bundalo's price tag of $23,000 was one of the biggest payouts Wollongong's Board has made since the club was accepted in the NSL back in 1981.

Coach David Ratcliffe regards the local content of his squad as a real bonus.

The former Socceroo captain, in his third season in charge of Wollongong, feels there is a lot of "town loyalty" among his players.

"Any coach in this league wants to have big name players in his team but.." Ratcliffe said.

"The club would have to be very selective in that regard. I am fortunate to have the likes of Charlie Yankos, Mick O'Shea and John Filan playing so well for me and they are real professionals in every sense of the word."

"We have been lucky to avoid the 'mercenary factor' of big names coming to Wollongong to make a quick dollar. Most of the local lads in my squad certainly don't earn big money, but they have done the job."

"Not too many people thought we would get into the top five this season, but the locals have made a great contribution" he said.

For the record, the local products Ratcliffe sent out against Brisbane were Bundalo, David Skeen, Jock Morlando, David Green, Matt Horsley, Sasha Dimoski and Claude Cellini.

Skeen and Green both left Wollongong to play with St. George but returned in swap deals.

Horsley, at 19, has been a revelation in his first full season in the league. Playing a wide midfield role, he has boundless energy and a passion for the game nurtured during his junior days at Balgownie.

Horsley graduated to Balgownie's first team at the age of 15 and twice won the prestigious ISA premier league player of the year award.

Midfielder Cellini, having made the NSL at the age of 26, finished top scorer with five, but just about every squad member managed to find the net.

Yankos and O'Shea have been nothing short of magnificent in the heart of Wollongong's defence while Filan was outstanding as his team broke the league's goals against record.

In 1985, Sydney City created that record when they coceded just 19 goals but miserly Wollongong allowed only 17 this campaign.

Green, who captained the side, has been a regular at right fullback, but incurred his first suspension in six years of NSL football during the season when he accumulated 12 points in bookings.

The left fullback spot has been shared by Scot Mick Smith and Mike Hollifield, Smith having proved one of the more versatile players of the squad.

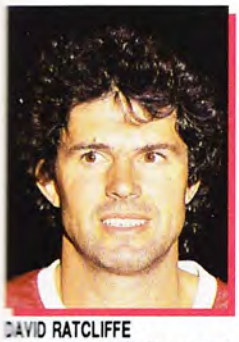
Wollongong signed striker Grant Bard from Sutherland during the season and although he scored only three goals Ratcliffe feels he will be a far more polished player next season.

Whatever happens in the current top five series, Wollongong have had a highly successful season.

Home and away wins over Marconi, including four goals at Marconi Stadium, is testimony of the team's ability to attack as well as defend.

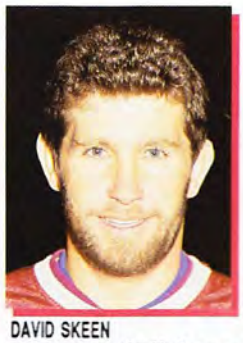
Phil Murphy
Illawarra Mercury

Coca-Cola



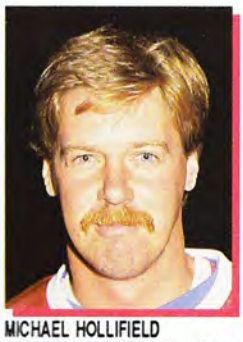
DAVID RATCLIFFE
Coach; Born 9/3/57; Represented Australia on 55 occassions 1982-86; Total 317 NSL appearances.

JOHN FILAN
Goalkeeper; Born 8/2/70; came to Wollongong City from St. George in 1991; Represented Australia at U/19, U/23 and Socceroo levels.

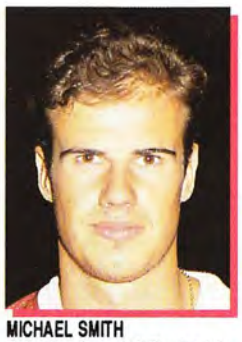


DAVID SKEEN
Midfielder; Born 13/1/62; Came to Wollongong from St. George; Represented NSW and Australian Youth Squad.

GRANT BARD
Striker; Born 25/9/70; Played for NSW Schoolboys squad 1988.

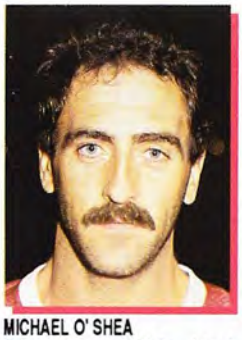


MICHAEL HOLLIFIELD
Defender; Born 2/5/61; Played for Wolverhampton Wanderers, Tranmere Rovers and Hull City; Total 100 NSL appearances.

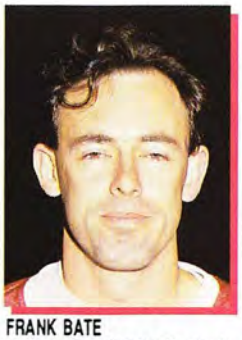


MICHAEL SMITH
Defender; Born 30/4/69; Total 24 NSL appearances.

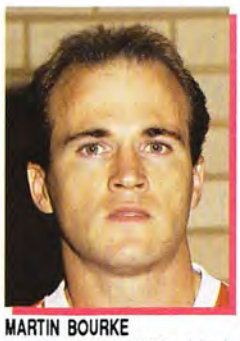
TONY PEZZANO
Goalkeeper; Born 23/10/60; First played with Brisbane City 1982; Played in NSL for 10 years; Previously with Sydney City, Apia Leichhardt and West Adelaide.



MICHAEL O' SHEA
Strikrt; Born 27/5/62; Joined Wollongong from St. George in 1991; Played for NSW Senios in 1983 and Australia in 1983-85; Total 300 appearances.

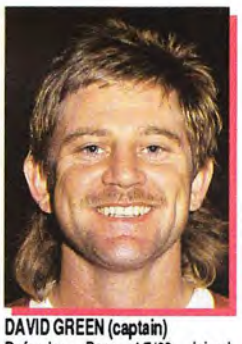


FRANK BATE
Midfielder; Born 25/11/63; Previously played for Stirling Macedonia and Enfield; Played for W.A. State Team in 1989-90; Total 30 NSL appearances.

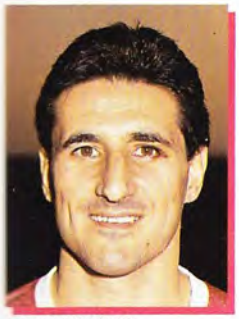


MARTIN BOURKE
Defender; Born 9/8/66; Joined Wollongong City in 1991 from Wollongong Macedonia; Total 60 NSL appearances.

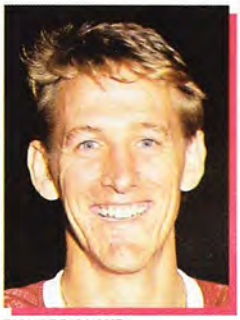
PATRICK BRODNIK
Midfielder; Born 20/10/66; Previous club was Bellambi; Total 130 NSL appearances.



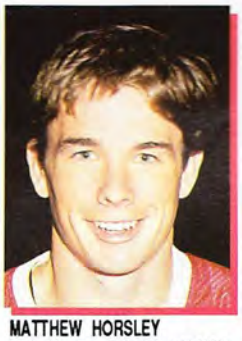
DAVID GREEN (captain)
Defender; Born 4/5/63; Joined Wollongong City from St. George in 1991; Total 212 NSL appearances.



CHARLIE YANKOS
Sweeper; Born 29/5/61; Played for Blacktown before joining Wollongong in 1991; Played for Aust. Schoolboys and Socceroos (92 app..)

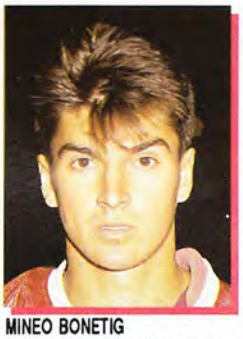


RICHARD LLOYD
Utility; Born 15/7/69; Total 40 NSL appearances.

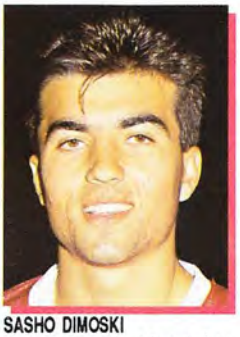


MATTHEW HORSLEY
Midfielder; Born 9/6/72; Total 24 NSL appearances.

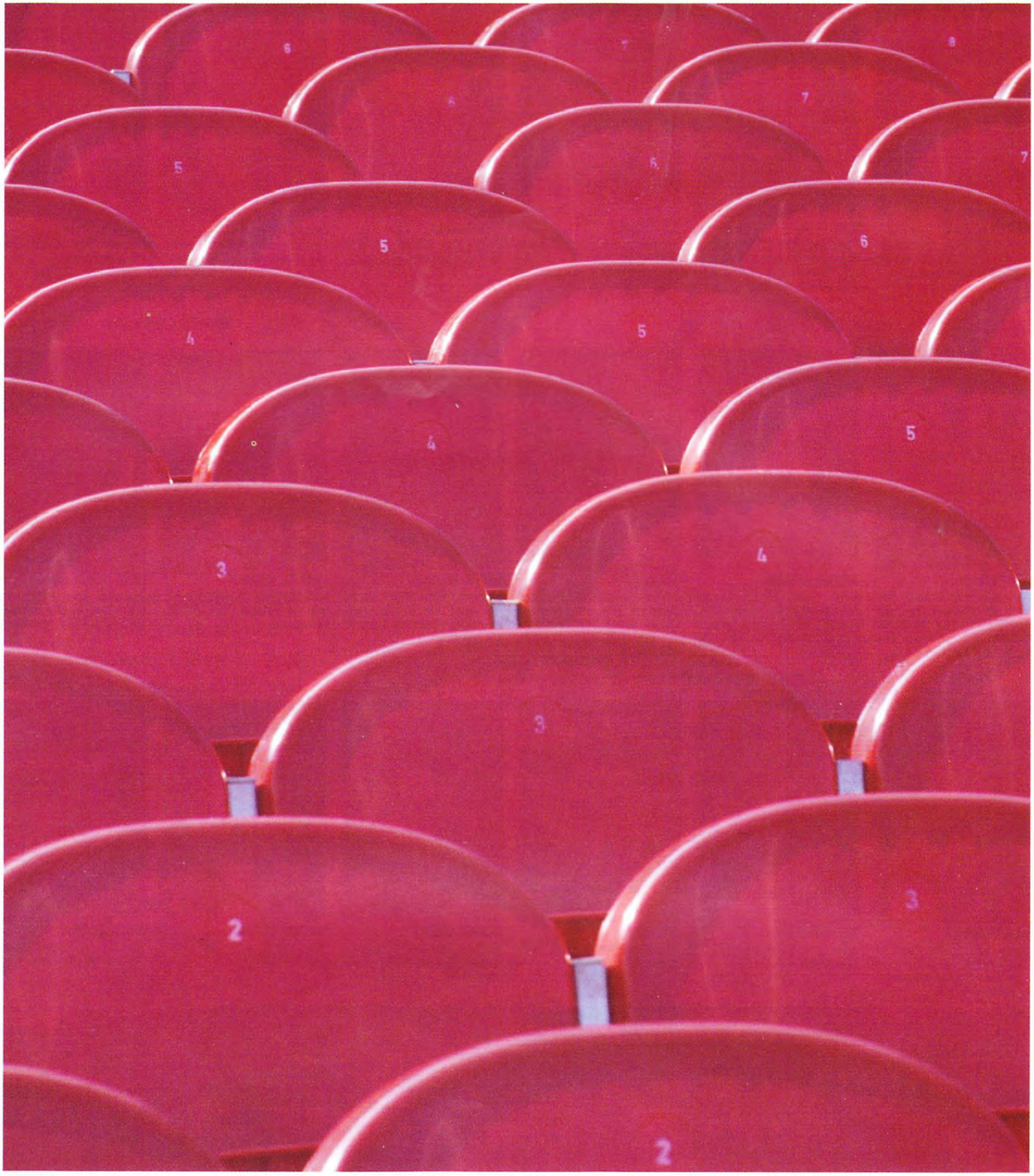
CLAUDE CELLINI
Midfielder; Born 30/7/65; Played for Illawarra Reps. squad; Total 35 NSL appearances.



MINEO BONETIG
Born 20/2/70; Joined from Juniors; Started in 1988.



SASHO DIMOSKI
Born 11/7/74; Joined from Juniors; Started in 1989/90 season.



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MAY 1992

VERSUS

AUSTRALIA **THE NETHERLANDS**

The Qualifier that Australia must win to get to the Olympics as the return leg will be in Holland.

To be played in Sydney, this is the first Dutch National team ever to visit Australia and will have many of the stars from their top club teams.

JUNE 1992

VERSUS

AUSTRALIA **CROATIA**

A three match test series as part of Australia's build-up for the World Cup in 1994.

This will be Croatia's first ever test series and will be played in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney.

Many of Croatia's players are world famous and sell-out crowds are expected.

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UNDER 19 NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

Coca-Cola Soccer League

NORTHERN DIVISION

- ELIMINATION SEMI FINAL -
MATCH A - SUNDAY 5TH APRIL, 1992

Team 3 vs Team 4
(Loser Eliminated)

- PRELIMINARY SEMI FINAL -
MATCH B - SUNDAY 12TH APRIL, 1992

Team 1 vs Team 2

- PRELIMINARY FINAL -
MATCH C - SUNDAY 19TH APRIL, 1992

Winner Match A vs Loser Match B

- DIVISIONAL GRAND FINAL -
MATCH D - SUNDAY 26TH APRIL, 1992

Winner Match B vs Winner Match C

- NATIONAL PLAY OFF -
MATCH E

Winner Match D NYL North vs Winner Match D NYL South

THE top four series in the Northern Youth League will be the most tightly fought in several years.

Parramatta Melita Eagles finished as minor premiers due to a fine away win over the A.I.S. Sydney Croatia sneeked into second place, a point ahead of the A.I.S. in third, while Sydney Olympic had to wait until Wednesday before the finals series to secure their place in the top four ahead of Marconi by a point.

The Eagles in the end deserved the top spot, as they led the competition for most of the season. Though they did not score as many goals as the other top four opponents, they conceded, along with Croatia, the least amount of goals. It was here, in the matches that counted most they seemed to have the edge and they again wil be looking to Frank Serratore and Jason Falzon to lead the defensive line and up front Ari Triantafyllou, Shaun Freestone and Tony Josevski are all potential match winners.

Sydney Croatia were hit by the Australian Youth teams tour to Europe. Leading goalscorer Ante Milicic, midfielder Ante Moric and goalkeeper John Perosh all made the tour leaving big gaps in the Croatian side. However, with their return, especially Milicic, who was averaging more than a goal per game before he went overseas, they will probably be the team to beat. With Mario Jerman also scoring his fair share of goals, they will take a lot of stopping.

The A.I.S. will as usual be tough competition. If Vasko Trpcevski and Kalogeracos can fire up front, the A.I.S. team can rip through the best defences. These two will be well supported by Mark Viduka and John Aloisi who are scoring goals regularly, and midfielder Paul Dee controlling the show. At the back, Craig Moore has his defenders working well and will give the opposition forwards a torrid time.

Sydney Olympic, after scraping into the four, will find it tough having to play on the Wednesday before their elimination final, will be hard to overcome, but Olympic will be giving it 100% as always. With players the calibre of Pablo Cardozo and Tony Alilovic up front, Peter Tsekenis controlling their midfield and Shane Borg and Steven Hickman in the back, Olympic will be very hard to toss.

In all, it looks likely to be a very tough and exciting series and predicting a champion to take on the Southern Champions in the National Final is almost impossible, as it will be down to whoever plays the best football on the day

by David Cooper

UNDER 19

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

SOUTHERN DIVISION

- ELIMINATION SEMI FINAL -
MATCH A - SUNDAY 5TH APRIL, 1992

Team 3 vs Team 4 (Loser Eliminated)

- PRELIMINARY SEMI FINAL -
MATCH B - SUNDAY 12TH APRIL, 1992

Team 1 vs Team 2

- PRELIMINARY FINAL -
MATCH C - SUNDAY 19TH APRIL, 1992

Winner Match A vs Loser Match B

- DIVISIONAL GRAND FINAL -
MATCH D - SUNDAY 26TH APRIL, 1992

Winner Match B vs Winner Match C

- NATIONAL PLAY OFF -
MATCH E

Winner Match D NYL North vs Winner Match D NYL South

The National Youth League (Southern Division) was the most closely contested it has been for several years, with the composition of the Top Four and the minor premiership only decided in the last two matches played.

Preston Makedonia downed Sunshine George Cross by five goals to nil in a postponed round 18 game to snatch the Minor Premiership from South Melbourne Hellas.

Heidelberg United`, which was the runaway leader early on, only sneaked back into the four when it played a rescheduled match against Fawkner, enabling them to leap-frog over South Melbourne Hellas Colts and Melbourne Croatia into third place.

Preston Makedonia had some shaky moments including big losses to Hellas Colts and Melbourne Croatia, but deserved its title for some very attractive soccer which produced 75 goals in 26 games. Nick Georgopulos and Nick Cuculevski were the main scorers for Preston. The return of former Altona Gate player Goran Lozanovski from the Australian Institute of Sport will strengthen Makedonia for the play-offs.

Defending National champion, South Melbourne Hellas, is still in with a chance of repeating last year's double of senior and youth league titles. If Souths had a weakness, it was the lack of an all-out striker. Nick Tsaltas finished as its leading scorer with 13 goals. Michael Valkanis had an excellent season in central defence, Tim Schleiger excelled at full back, while goalkeeper Mike Lilikakis, aside from being a top class keeper,also scored two penalty kicks.

Heidelberg United started brilliantly, then faded badly, but pulled itself together just in time. Peter Tiktikakis made a big difference after his transfer from Hellas, while George Georgiadis in defence and Eric Vasiliadis in midfield were consistent performers. A lack of punch up front may be a problem for heidelberg in the play-offs, though it has a parsimonious defence, with keeper Michael Chatzitrifonos in fine form.

National champion two years ago, Melbourne Croatia, was an even higher scorer than Preston Makedonia, racking up a massive 86 goals, thirty of which came from leading scorer Jani Suric. Damien Vojtek took over his position to good effect late in the year. Melbourne Croatia has used very few senior players in the course of the year and Krunoslav Razov, Stipe Jerbic and Damir Kroki were the backbone of the side.

by Roy Hay

GRAND FINAL 1990/91

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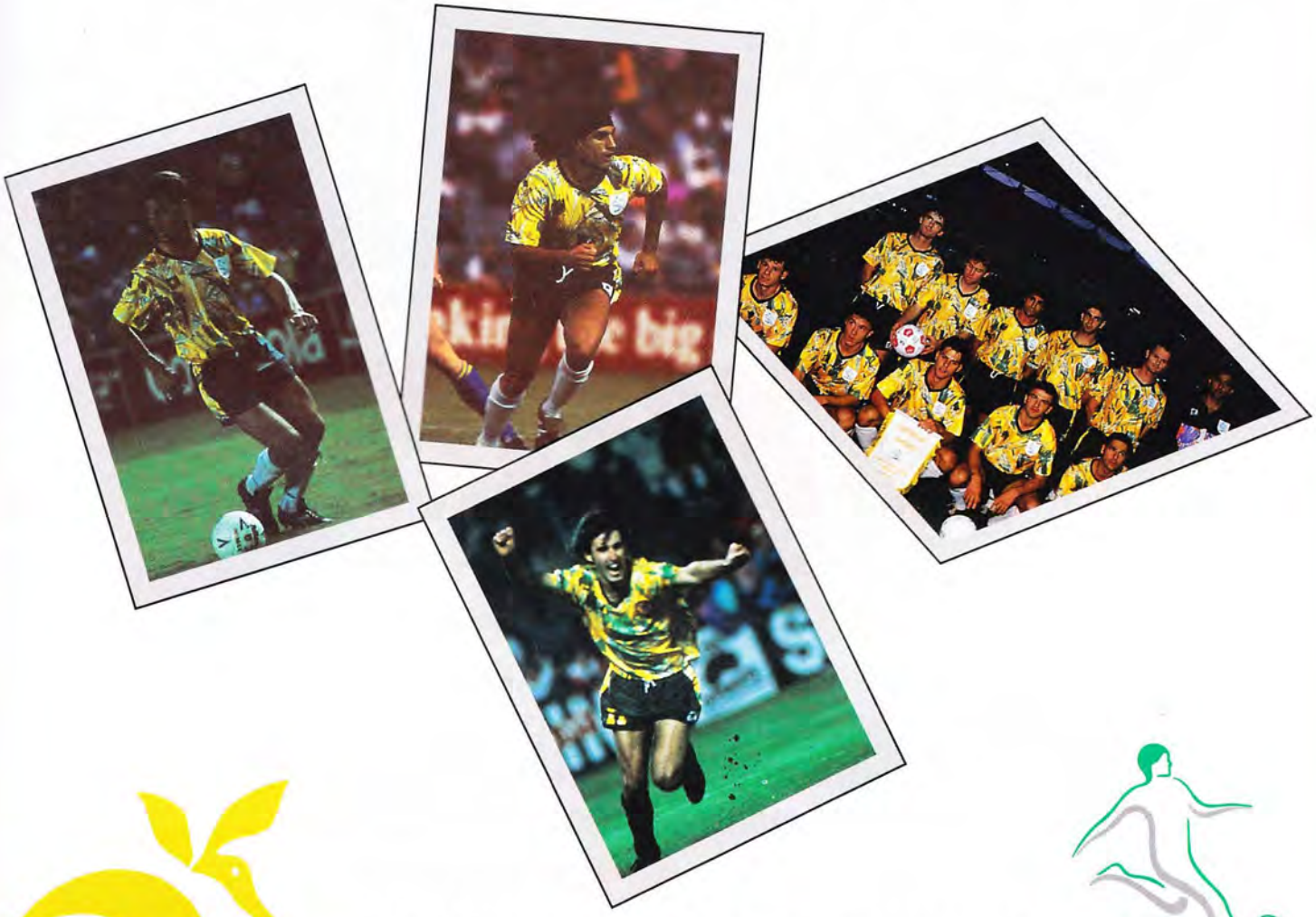

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SYDNEY 2000

Sydney is a bidding city to host the world's greatest multi-sports festival - the Summer Olympic Games - in the year 2000. The Sydney Bid has the wholehearted support of the New South Wales and Australian Governments, the Australian Olympic Committee, the Sydney City Council and the people of Sydney.

In preparing its formal Bid Books for presentation to the International Olympic Committee, Sydney is aiming to produce an outstanding Olympic Plan in all respects, but particularly to meet the needs of the individual sports and, most importantly,the athletes.

As part of this process, detailed consultations are continuing with those International Federations whose sports comprise the program of the Summer Olympic Games.

One of the most important of those International Sports Federations is, of course, FIFA. Soccer is truly "the world game", taking on an almost religious status in many of the 168 countries whose National Soccer Federation is affiliated to FIFA. In terms of spectator attendance and gate revenues, soccer is by far the most popular sport at the Olympic Games. And every 4 years, soccer supporters around the world celebrate a sporting event that rivals the Olympic Games - the FIFA World Cup.

The Sydney 2000 Bid recognises the importance of FIFA and the sport of soccer in the Olympic movement. To this end, we were pleased to provide a briefing on our Bid to two distinguished FIFA representatives - Mr. Julio Grondona and Mr. Miguel Galan - during their recent visit to Australia to inspect preparations for the 1993 World Youth Football Championships for the FIFA/Coca Cola Cup.

The Sydney Bid is represented on the Organising Committee for those Championships, and will be providing whatever assistance it can to the Australian Soccer Federation in the staging of this prestigious international sporting event. I urge all Australian soccer fans to support the Championships in March next year, and to rally behind our Australian team as they strive to build on their magnificent performance in Portugal last year.

A successful bid by Sydney for the year 2000 Olympic Games will bring some of the world's greatest soccer players to Australia and provide untold pleasure and enjoyment to Australian soccer fans. With your support, we can make this dream a reality.

On behalf of the team preparing Sydney's Bid, my best wishes to all the teams in this season's NSL Finals series.

Roderick McGeoch, A.M.
Chief Executive
Sydney Olympics 2000 Bid Ltd.

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